

**EAST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
EAST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL BOARDROOM
35 WHEELBARROW LANE
EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06513**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010
7:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mr. DeNuzzo, Mrs. DePalma, Mrs. Kluth,
Mrs. Maisano, Mr. Palladino, Mr. Pompano,
Mr. Scalesse and Mrs. Vineyard

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Anthony Serio, Superintendent
Mr. Frank Meoli, Assistant Supt.
Mrs. Erica Forti, Asst. Supt of
Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Mary Acquarulo, Director of
Pupil Services
Mr. Jason Lathrop, Business Administrator
Mr. Joseph Travaglino, Director of
Bldgs. & Grounds

ABSENT: Mr. Hennessey

1. OPEN MEETING

Chairman Palladino called the Special Board of Education meeting to order at 7:53 p.m. in the Boardroom at the High School.

2. Discussion and Approval on Proposed Operating Budget 2010-11

Mr. Palladino stated there would be a Discussion and Approval on the Proposed Operating Budget for the 2010-2011 school year. He asked Mr. Serio if he had a budget to propose. Mr. Serio stated the number is from the last subcommittee meeting that was worked on. Some cuts were made into the 8.6% and dropped down to 6.7%. Mr. Lathrop stated that it was

6.75%. He summarized the conversation from the last Finance subcommittee meeting which brought the budget down to a 6.75% increase. The discussion centered around the total dollar amount of the increase. The percentage happens to be a resultant of the budgetary decreases. One thing that was not fully discussed was the Student Resource Officer, which he thought was worth discussing tonight because of the impact on the budget. There was some concern regarding the restructuring charges, and how do we quantify these charges as we move toward a final budget number to recommend to the mayor.

Mr. Pompano wanted to know from what Mr. Meoli presented earlier; if the number on the Teaching positions would change a little. Mr. Lathrop stated there were a couple of options in place on the table and asked for guidance. Mrs. DePalma stated that they hadn't decided on the reconfiguration yet. Mr. Meoli stated that it was safer to leave it where it was. Mrs. Vineyard stated that they needed to present a budget that covers the contractual obligations tonight and start there.

Mr. Lathrop stated that if you looked at the contractual obligations is a big piece of the budget. Mr. Lathrop stated that he wanted to define contractual obligations, the object codes that are pulled out, he believes is contractual. These are the benefits line items and the salary line items. The 2 line items add up to between \$2.8, \$2.9 million dollars and can be considered contractual in nature. On the reduction sheet, except for the public transportation all those lines are contractual in nature.

Mr. Lathrop stated that there are also 2 requested positions included, an additional Middle School position and an additional High School position. The High School position is in the support services area, which could be a Guidance Counselor, Social Worker, or Psychologist if there's a need there. The Middle School is trying to address the situation, assuming that the status quo is taking place at the Middle School. They needed to address some challenges that Mr. Prato is facing with his "Specials" rotation. He had requested an entire team. Mrs. Reale requested 5 positions to try to address some of the NEASC Accreditation issues that might pop up. If the talk was contractual in nature you would have to reduce that number by \$100,000, but is not recommended. The contractual obligations are modified by a significant number of State and Federal grants expiring, not the total number of grants but the total dollar impact of the grants is driving the number up. Close to the 2.9 increase or 2.954 versus looking at the object budget the 100 and 200 line items are

around an increase of 2.9 million. Exactly where it lays out over time and with a lot of work that would have to be done to try to implement something that it should be voted on and move forward.

Mr. Palladino asked if we are asking for a 6.75% increase. Mrs. Vineyard stated that we couldn't assume the deductions yet because the restructuring or any of the other items were not voted on yet and to take them out would be a disservice. Mr. Lathrop stated that if 200 Tyler Street was closed you would not be saving a lot because of the restructuring charges. The numbers are not perfect. The moving costs, and additional potential costs, with the move of the Academy or 6th grade going into the Middle School would need to be addressed. Mr. Palladino asked if he Mr. Lathrop, the Superintendent and Central Office are asking for an increase of 6.75% at this point and if that is correct. Mr. Lathrop stated that technically it is the Board's recommendation to the next step. Mr. Palladino stated that he would like it to be Mr. Lathrop, the Superintendent and Central Office's recommendation to the Board. He asked once again if this in fact is the recommendation to the Board, the nine members sitting there, is for a 6.75% increase, roughly \$2.9 million dollars. Mr. Lathrop stated that he crunched the numbers and he would leave it up to Mr. Serio to recommend the amount. Mr. Serio stated that he believed that was correct. Mr. Palladino thanked Mr. Serio and asked if anyone on the board would make a motion for the recommendation from the Superintendent.

Mrs. Vineyard made a motion to accept the budget recommendation from the Superintendent for a 6.75% increase or \$2.9 million dollars and was seconded by Mr. DeNuzzo.

Any discussion on the motion?

Mrs. Maisano asked if the \$2.9 is the salary line of the \$1.8 and the benefit line of the \$1.1 on the first sheet. Mr. Lathrop stated that one is \$2.915 and \$2.918 and the reductions and increase of \$2.954, which is within the range of \$40,000.

There were no abstentions or objections made to the motion.
Motion carries.

3. Any other business that might rightfully come before this subcommittee.

There were none this evening.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Vineyard made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Mr. Scalesse. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**MR. NICHOLAS PALLADINO, CHAIRMAN
EAST HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION**